

Art Unit: 1797

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Michael R. Williams on 5/1/08.

The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 1 line 4 "drawing off" has been changed to – removing -; in line 8 "floc portion" has been changed to – solid portion including flocs -; in line 10 "floc" has been changed to – solid -; in line 12 after "oxide" – and a cationic, anionic, or non-ionic flocculating or coagulating polymer – has been inserted; in lines 14 and 15 "struvite-containing flocs" has been changed – flocs and struvite -.

In claim 20 lines 2 and 3 "floc portion" has been changed to – solid portion including flocs -.

In the title "SYSTEM" has been changed to – METHOD -.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The primary reason for allowance of the claims is the recitation of the steps for mixing lime with the manure and removing ammonia, in combination with the steps for adding the polymers and magnesium compounds to the manure and liquid portion, and separating the solid portion and flocs and struvite from the liquid portions, respectively. This combination of steps is not taught nor suggested by the prior art of record.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to /Peter A. Hruskoci/ whose telephone number is (571) 272-1160. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:00AM-5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Duane Smith can be reached on (571) 272-1166. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Peter A. Hruskoci/
Primary Examiner
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4/30/08

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